

CLAIMS

1. A straw cutting spiral cut craft tool comprising:

a housing having a cutting guide; and

a cutting edge coupled to the housing, the cutting edge projecting into the cutting guide;

wherein, the cutting guide is adapted to constrain a hollow straw having a centerline from lateral movement at the cutting guide while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline and wherein the cutting edge is adapted to cut a spiral cut in the hollow straw.

✓ 2. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to vary while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline.

3. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 2 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.

4. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting edge is adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to be changeable and wherein a pitch of the spiral cut may vary when the angle is changed.

5. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 4 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.

6. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.
- ✓ 7. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut a notch in straw.
8. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut the straw axially.
9. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 further comprising a rounding mandrel coupled to the housing, wherein the rounding mandrel is adapted to form an end which is rounded over on the hollow straw.
10. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 further comprising a tapered portion coupled to the housing, wherein the tapered portion is adapted to flare an end of the hollow straw.
11. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting guide further comprises a secondary component slideably coupled to the housing, wherein the secondary component is adapted to further guide the hollow straw and wherein an angle between the cutting edge and the centerline is changeable when the secondary component is slid relative to the housing.
12. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting guide is open or may be opened to accept the hollow straw laterally into the cutting guide.
13. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to be changeable in size to accommodate more than one size of hollow straw.

14. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 1 wherein the hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.

15. A straw cutting spiral cut craft tool comprising:

a cutting guide adapted to constrain a hollow straw having a centerline from substantial lateral movement;

a cutting edge projecting into the cutting guide; and

a secondary component moveable relative to the cutting guide, the secondary component being adapted to further guide the hollow straw;

wherein an angle between the cutting edge and the centerline is changeable when the secondary component is moved relative to the cutting guide, wherein the cutting edge is adapted to cut a spiral cut in the hollow straw.

16. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.

17. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 further comprising a trimming edge adapted to cut a notch in straw.

18. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 further comprising a trimming edge adapted to cut ^{the} straw axially.

19. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 further comprising a rounding mandrel adapted to form an end which is rounded over on the hollow straw.

20. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 further comprising a tapered portion adapted to flare an end of the hollow straw.

21. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 further comprising a stop, the stop being adapted to allow repeatable positioning of the secondary component relative to the cutting guide.

22. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 wherein the cutting guide is open or may be opened to accept the hollow straw laterally into the cutting guide.

23. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to be changeable in size to accommodate more than one size of hollow straw.

24. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 15 wherein the hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.

25. A method of making a straw craft comprising the steps of:

cutting or crimping a spiral cut in a first hollow straw; and

cutting or crimping a first end of the first hollow straw.

26. The method of making a straw craft of claim 25 further comprising the step of connecting the first end to a second end of the first hollow straw.

27. The method of making a straw craft of claim 25 further comprising the step of connecting the first hollow straw to a second hollow straw at the first end of the first hollow straw.

28. The method of claim 25 wherein the first hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.

29. The method of claim 27 wherein the first hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.

30. A straw cutting spiral cut craft tool comprising:

a housing having a cutting guide; and

a cutting edge coupled to the housing, the cutting edge projecting into the cutting guide;

wherein, the cutting guide is adapted to constrain a hollow straw having a centerline from lateral movement at the cutting guide while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline and wherein the cutting edge is adapted to cut a spiral cut in the hollow straw and wherein the cutting edge is further adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to be changeable and wherein a pitch of the spiral cut may vary when the angle is changed.

31. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.

32. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut a notch in straw.

33. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut the straw axially.

34. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 further comprising a rounding mandrel coupled to the housing, wherein the rounding mandrel is adapted to form an end which is rounded over on the hollow straw.
35. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 further comprising a tapered portion coupled to the housing, wherein the tapered portion is adapted to flare an end of the hollow straw.
36. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 wherein the cutting guide is open or may be opened to accept the hollow straw laterally into the cutting guide.
37. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to be changeable in size to accommodate more than one size of hollow straw.
38. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 30 wherein the hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.
39. A straw cutting spiral cut craft tool comprising:
- a housing having a cutting guide; and
 - a cutting edge coupled to the housing, the cutting edge projecting into the cutting guide;
- wherein, the cutting guide is adapted to constrain a hollow straw having a centerline from lateral movement at the cutting guide while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline and wherein the cutting guide is open or may be opened to accept the hollow straw laterally into the cutting guide and wherein the cutting edge is adapted to cut a spiral cut in the hollow straw.

40. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 wherein the cutting guide further comprises a secondary component slideably coupled to the housing, wherein the secondary component is adapted to further guide the hollow straw and wherein an angle between the cutting edge and the centerline is changeable when the secondary component is slid relative to the housing.

41. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 wherein the cutting edge is adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to be changeable and wherein a pitch of the spiral cut may vary when the angle is changed.

42. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut a notch in straw.

43. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut the straw axially.

44. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 further comprising a rounding mandrel coupled to the housing, wherein the rounding mandrel is adapted to form an end which is rounded over on the hollow straw.

45. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 further comprising a tapered portion coupled to the housing, wherein the tapered portion is adapted to flare an end of the hollow straw.

46. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to be changeable in size to accommodate more than one size of hollow straw.

47. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 39 wherein the hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.

48. A straw cutting spiral cut craft tool comprising:

a housing having a cutting guide; and

a cutting edge coupled to the housing, the cutting edge projecting into the cutting guide;

wherein, the cutting guide is adapted to constrain a hollow straw having a centerline from lateral movement at the cutting guide while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline and wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to be changeable in size to accommodate more than one size of hollow straw and wherein the cutting edge is adapted to cut a spiral cut in the hollow straw.

49. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 wherein the cutting guide is further adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to vary while allowing either the cutting edge or the straw to be rotated about the centerline.

50. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 wherein the cutting edge is retractable from a first position where the cutting edge is projecting into the cutting guide to a second position where the cutting edge is not projecting into the cutting guide.

51. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 wherein the cutting edge is adapted to allow an angle between the centerline and the cutting edge to be changeable and wherein a pitch of the spiral cut may vary when the angle is changed.

52. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut a notch in straw.

53. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 further comprising a trimming edge coupled to the housing, wherein the trimming edge is adapted to cut the straw axially.

54. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 further comprising a rounding mandrel coupled to the housing, wherein the rounding mandrel is adapted to form an end which is rounded over on the hollow straw.

55. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 further comprising a tapered portion coupled to the housing, wherein the tapered portion is adapted to flare an end of the hollow straw.

56. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 wherein the cutting guide is open or may be opened to accept the hollow straw laterally into the cutting guide.

57. The straw cutting spiral cut craft tool of claim 48 wherein the hollow straw is a drinking straw with a diameter less than 12mm.